



County of Los Angeles  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

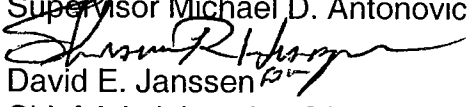
YVONNE B. BURKE  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

May 2, 2005

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair  
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich  
From:   
David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**SACRAMENTO UPDATE**

**Pursuit of County Position on Legislation**

**AB 889 (Ruskin)**, as introduced on February 18, 2005, would continue the authority of counties to collect registration fees for commercial weighing and measuring devices by repealing the sunset date of January 1, 2006. These devices (scales and meters) are used to calculate the price of goods sold.

Under existing law, counties are mandated to regularly inspect and test scales and meters, and are authorized to recover costs subject to a fee cap. The County Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM) Department indicates that current registration fees provide approximately \$1.7 million annually, and fall short of fully funding the cost of inspection and testing by approximately \$700,000 annually. Additionally, ACWM indicates that the volume of devices has increased in recent years, and they are having difficulty maintaining an appropriate frequency of inspection and testing due to limited resources.

ACWM recommends support for AB 889 because it would allow for recovery of the County's costs, and help increase the frequency of inspections and testing, and we concur. Support for AB 889 is consistent with the County's State Legislative Agenda which indicates support for proposals which would allow for the full recovery of costs for inspection and testing of commercial weighing and measuring device accuracy. **Therefore, our Sacramento Advocates will support AB 889.**

AB 889 is scheduled for hearing before the Assembly Business and Professions Committee on May 3, 2005. According to the author's office, the bill is sponsored by the California Agricultural Commissioners & Sealers Association, and supported by the California State Association of Counties, and Santa Clara County. The measure is opposed by the California Grocers Association, unless amended to address concerns about retail scanning devices.

**Status of County-Interest Legislation**

**County-supported AB 1605 (Wolk)**, which would add officers and employees of financial institutions, including banks, credit unions, and savings and loans, to those designated as mandated reporters of financial abuse perpetrated against elder and dependent adults, passed the Assembly Aging and Long Term Care Committee on April 27, 2005 by a vote of 3 to 2, and the Assembly Public Safety Committee on April 28, 2005 by a vote of 4 to 1. The measure has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee and is pending a hearing date.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK  
MAL:JF:MS:ib

c:     Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
         County Counsel  
         Local 660  
         All Department Heads  
         Legislative Strategist  
         Coalition of County Unions  
         California Contract Cities Association  
         Independent Cities Association  
         League of California Cities  
         City Managers Associations  
         Buddy Program Participants